



# Merchant & Gould

An Intellectual Property Law Firm

Direct Contact

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A Professional Corporation

November 30, 2004

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

Mr. Bill Murray  
Abbott Laboratories, Inc.  
Dept. 377  
Building AP6A/1  
100 Abbott Park Road  
Abbott Park IL 60064

Re: Withdrawal From Representation  
Merchant & Gould Reference No.: M&G 08966

RECEIVED  
JUN 28 2005  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Dear Mr. Murray:

Our firm has decided to withdraw from representation of Abbott Laboratories. To facilitate the withdrawal of our representation, we have requested from the United States Patent and Trademark Office permission to withdraw as attorney of record. Enclosed please find copies of these requests. This filing with the United States Patent and Trademark Office will allow us to formally withdraw from representation. Once approval is received by Merchant & Gould, we will no longer be held responsible for your legal matters.

I am also transferring to you at this time your original files, as listed herewith, and have not retained copies. These files will be removed from our docket system, and once the Patent and Trademark Office has granted the withdrawal, we understand that you will assume responsibility for all future docket dates. Enclosed is a current Docket Report detailing all outstanding due dates for the next one year period. We have removed these deadlines from our *docket* and *annuity* system. You are advised to immediately seek new counsel so as not to jeopardize your intellectual property portfolio. Failure to respond as required by the USPTO to future docket dates could result in the loss of your intellectual property rights. We understand that you are already working with the firm of Wood, Phillips, Katz, Clark and Mortimer regarding related files. Accordingly, we believe our withdrawal would not prejudice Abbott Laboratories.

Finally, we note that you have still an outstanding balance of \$3,865.87. We trust that you will remit payment shortly.

Minneapolis/St. Paul  
Denver  
Seattle  
Atlanta  
Washington, DC

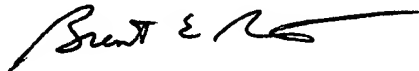
November 30, 2004

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Please acknowledge receipt and assume responsibility for these files by signing and returning the attached copy of this letter.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Brent Routman  
Merchant & Gould

BR:MED:kf

Enclosures: Docketing Reports  
Duplicate Copy of Client Letter  
Duplicate Copy of Request to Withdraw as Attorney of Record  
File List  
Files

cc: Annuity Department  
Client Records Supervisor  
Docketing Department  
USPTO

I hereby acknowledge receipt and responsibility of the files on the attached files list.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date